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See p. 26

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Remodeling & Makeovers
Volume XIX, Number 2
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Remodeling
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VOLUME XIX ■ NUMBER 2

features



on the cover

PHOTOGRAPH: KEITH SCOTT MORTON
STYLING: PAMELA ABRAHAMS
FOR STORY, SEE PAGE 76 .

Remodeling
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VOLUME XIX ■ NUMBER 2



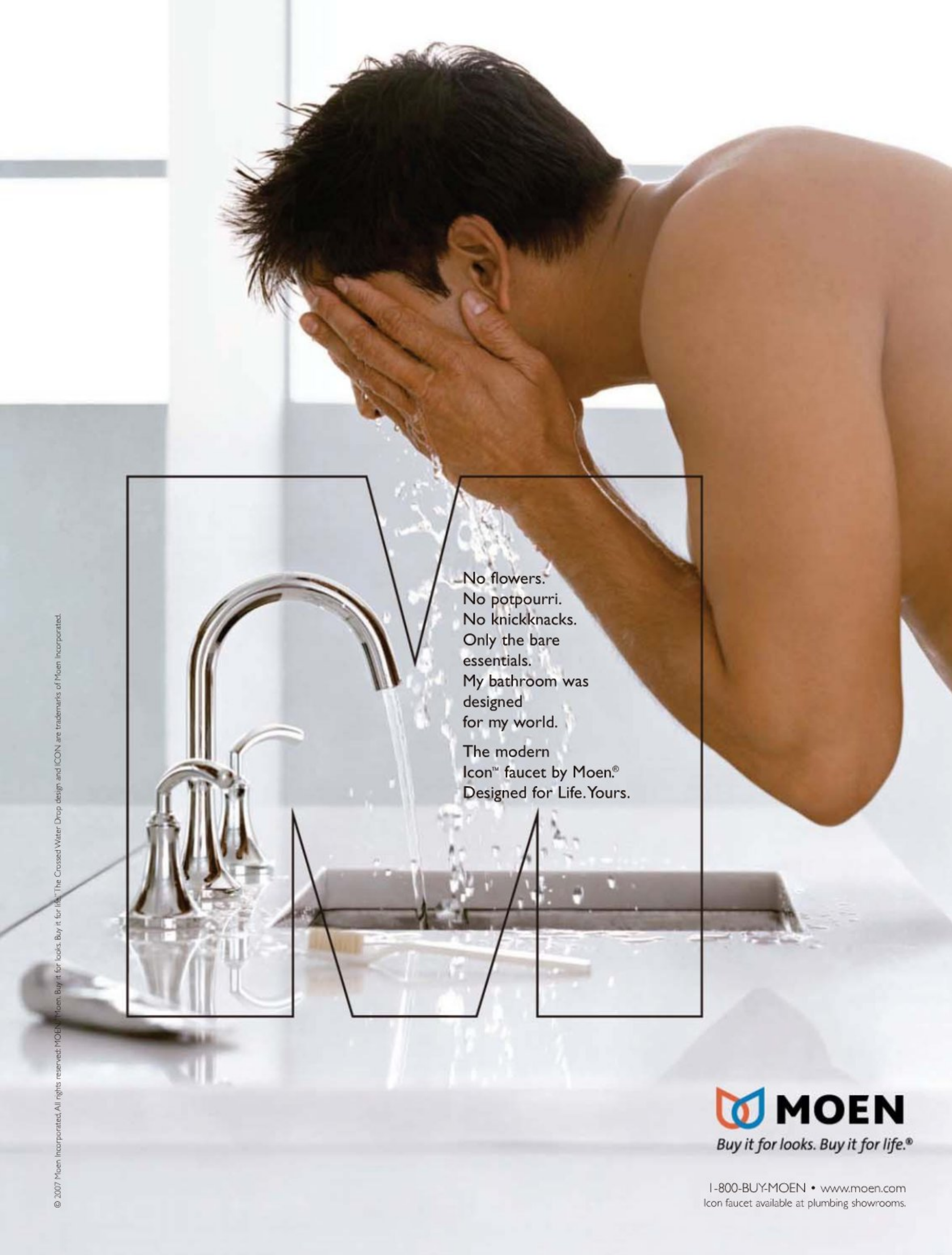




departments

resources

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Sound investing

Given the economic roller coaster we've all been riding lately, looking for ways to preserve our hard-earned cash is top of mind for most of us these days. But thanks to a new wave of value-engineered building products—from high-performance windows and doors to energy-efficient water heaters—as well as various federal and state tax incentives, spending a little money now on certain kinds of home improvements can actually help you save money in the long run by lowering utility bills or maintenance costs. See News You Can Use (page 12), Going Green (page 18) and Simple Solutions (page 20) for tips and tools on how to spend a little to save a lot. Making modest investments in your home can also help you protect this vital asset by adding to its value or improving the quality of your life. And you can make budget-wise upgrades whether your home is old or new. By tacking a series of small upgrades onto the tail end of a kitchen renovation, for example, homeowner Donna Talley dramatically improved the function and beauty of her 140-year-old Saratoga, New York, home (page 64) for less than $4,000. Designer T. Keller Donovan, on the other hand, enhanced a new spec house (left and on page 58) simply by installing ceiling fans and plantation shutters, which add character and control climate cost-efficiently. Best of all, many easy upgrades are eco-friendly, too—and getting on Mother Earth's good side is sure to yield dividends for all of us.

—Jean Nayar, Editor



PHOTOGRAPHS: ABOVE, ERIK RANK; BELOW, CARLOS DOMENECH HAIR AND MAKEUP: CHUCK JENSEN, FOR MARK EDWARD INC.

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While You're Thinking About Remodeling Your Home,
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on the web

Sometimes, making over your home is as easy as finding new places for old things. Whether you need to get home-office clutter under control or organize a closet to save time during the week, we've got a solution that works for you. Visit *WomansDay.com* for unique storage ideas, easy organizing tips and much more.



PHOTOGRAPH: GRIDLEY + GRAVES

Tidy Up
Clear the clutter from your kitchen to uncover the items you're proud to display.

TREASURE HUNTING
Could a family heirloom be buried under a pile of paperwork? Unearth hidden gems around your house with our helpful clutter control tips. Go to *womanday.com/clutter* to get advice for organizing every last nook in your home, including the pantry, closets, junk drawer and more!

coming next



TY PENNINGTON AT HOME
On sale June 23

- Affordable summer style from classic to cool
- Three fresh looks for your patio or deck
- Smart ways to stow stuff in the garage
- Super DIY storage solutions for every room

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{nuts & bolts}

The latest products for your home

Written by **Cathy Nelson Price**



shine on

The Stilato mixed mosaic tiles in pearly Moonstruck add shimmering elegance to a wall or floor. Part of the Opera Glass collection, they're available in eight colorways or you can customize your own mix. From $26 per square foot. 888-698-8857; *artistictile.com*.





shelf life

Made of eco-friendly, weather-resistant rubberwood, the Tisbury plant stand has two shelves with evenly spaced slats for proper drainage. In red (shown) or sage, it will brighten any porch or patio. $200. *smithandhawken.com*.

shades of glory

Offering a glare-free combination of downlight and diffused illumination, Paul Henningsen's PH 50 pendant rings in its 50th birthday with five new colors: Chili Red and Wasabi Green (shown), Mint Blue, Coconut White and Olive Black. $850. *louispoulsen.com*.



love handle

Dress up a basic door with a striking new doorknob—or choose one that complements the style of your door. The Couture collection of door hardware includes classical, Arts and Crafts, romantic or modern-inspired designs, all in forged solid brass and 21 finishes. From $143 per knob (you'll need one for each side). *baldwinhardware.com*. ➤

summer house

Made in the shade: The Sweetwater Cabana outdoor daybed is designed to be a comfortable retreat in the garden, by the pool or anywhere in your yard. Open sides provide unobstructed views while a Sunbrella fabric canopy keeps you covered. $5,200. 800-587-5054; *sweetwatercabana.com*.




I want a floor
that will give my home a look that
normally takes decades to earn.
©2009 Shaw
Hardwood: Rosedown Hickory
Area Rug: Mosque Medallion
Shaw
Where Great Floors Begin
Try on a floor at shawfloors.com
Carpet | Area Rugs | Tile & Stone | Hardwood | Laminate



try it at home

Nature's elements inspire the palette of the Yolo Colorhouse collection of VOC-free interior and exterior paints. The paint is Green Seal–certified as an environmentally responsible product. Another reason to feel good about using it: The company offers poster-size color swatches for just $6 so you'll be confident about your color choice. $45 per gallon. *yolocolorhouse.com*.



within reach

With a high arc spout and multifunction spray, the Anabelle pull-down faucet handles any sink chore while looking fabulous. A matching soap dispenser keeps the sink area neat and functional. Chrome, $480; stainless, $220. 800-289-6636; *moen.com*.



avoid the draft

Perform your own energy audit with the Thermal Leak Detector. The hand-held tool uses infrared sensors that show you where your house is leaking precious hot or cold air. Find the leaks, plug them, and watch your energy bill drop year round. $49. *blackanddecker.com*. ■



{news to use}

Written by **Ayn-Monique Tetreault-Rooney Klahre**

Hot SPLASH

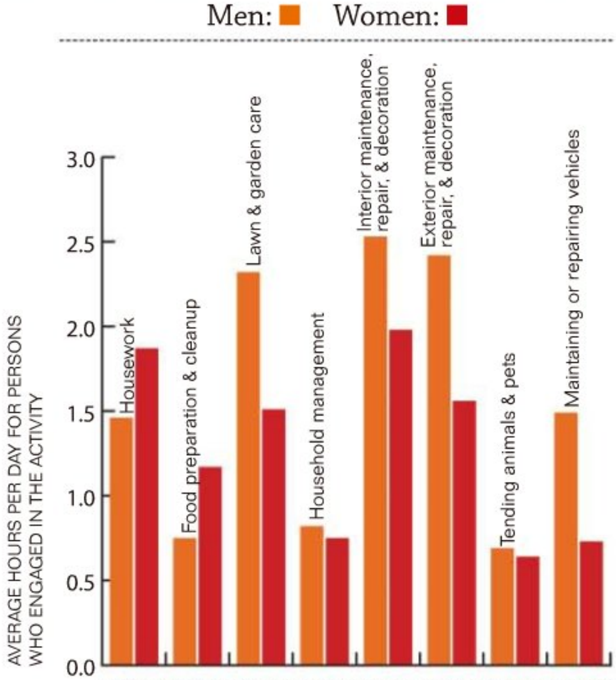
That steamy shower can cost you: Water heaters are the third-largest energy user in our homes, after climate control and kitchen appliances. If you must replace your water heater, consider an Energy Star–qualified model. The Department of Energy recently adjusted its rating criteria for the devices, which should save Americans $780 million in utility costs and eliminate 4.2 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions over the next five years. Look for the certification label on three different types of heaters: solar, electric (heat pumps) and gas (including high-performance storage tanks, gas-condensing units and tankless units). Visit *energystar.gov* to choose one that's right for your home.

GE GN75ENSRSA whole-house tankless heater; *geappliances.com*.



TIME AT HOME

Ever felt like you were in the kitchen or cleaning house all day? You might have been! Below are the average number of hours* spent in various household activities per day, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics:



*2007 annual average hours per day (including weekdays, weekends and holidays) spent in these activities by the population age 15 and over.

SEAL & DELIVER

Thompson's Water Seal wants to help your deck—and our national parks. When you buy select clear and tinted exterior waterproofers from May 22 to July 5, you will not only earn a store gift check, but the company will also donate a dollar per gallon to Niagara Falls State Park, Yellowstone National Park and Glacier National Park. To learn what products qualify, and to enter to win a trip to one of these parks, visit *thomspsonwaterseal.com*.

In the Garden



Time to get outside and tend the yard! But first, consider this comparison of outdoor tools from Ace Hardware's "Helpful Hardware Man," Lou Manfredini:

Rubber hoses last longer and don't kink up as easily	vs	**Vinyl hoses** are lighter and easier to handle
Leather gloves are ideal if you'll be using tools like rakes, shovels or lawnmowers	vs	**Cloth or canvas gloves** are lighter-weight and a more comfortable option for tidying the garden
Sweep rakes are fan-shaped and work like a broom to move leaves and light debris past you	vs	**Straightedge rakes** pull heavier debris like sticks and stones toward you so you can gather them up
Wooden stepladders are sturdy and inexpensive, but they are heavy and harder to handle	vs	**Aluminum stepladders** are lightweight, but more expensive than wooden stepladders

PHOTOGRAPH OF GLOVES: VERA BRADLEY

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Actual Photo

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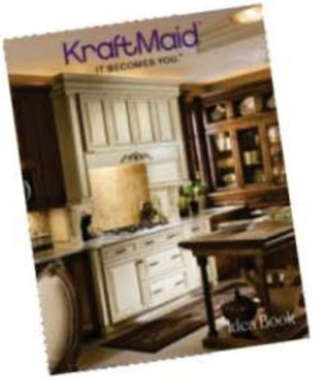
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{news to use}

MAKES CENTS

Give your home a makeover with new windows and doors. You'll get a return on your investment in two ways: energy savings and enhanced curb appeal. Replacing older windows with energy-efficient models can save anywhere from $125 to $450 in heating bills over the course of a year. Plus, the National Association of Realtors found that homeowners can expect up to a 90 percent return on window upgrades when a home is sold, since damaged, worn, or out-of-style windows can decrease the value of a home.



Jeld-Wen Premium Vinyl sliding window, from $165 per single window, 800-535-3936; *jeld-wen.com.*

AUTO MATE

Your garage is just the place where you park the car, right? Wrong! Here are a few facts we discovered about this humble yet versatile space:

- 73 percent of Americans enter their home through their garage
- 25 percent of homeowners use the garage to store clutter instead of the family sedan
- Car insurance companies, on average, offer a 10 percent savings for parking a car in a garage instead of on the street
- In 1950, only 47 percent of homes were built with a garage. As of 2007, 65 percent of homes have garages—often with room for three cars in new constructions
- The standard size of the garage door has grown from 7×9 feet to 8×10 for a two-car bay
- Replacing your garage door can increase the curb appeal of your home enough to up the asking price by 4 percent
- Thanks to the new stimulus legislation, you could earn up to a $1,500 tax credit for installing insulated garage doors. (Visit *garagewownow.com/tax-credit-09.htm* for more info.) ■



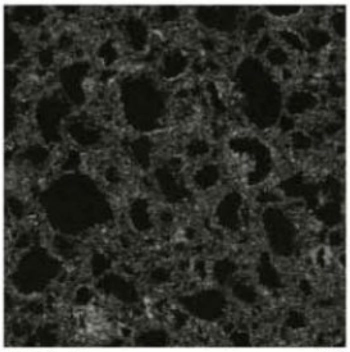
Design 12 garage doors with REC 13 Windows from The Reserve Collection, Clopay. From $1,800 for a single door. 800-225-6729, *clopaydoor.com.*

Color Expression^{09}





Basalt Black 6185T



Black Rocks 4170

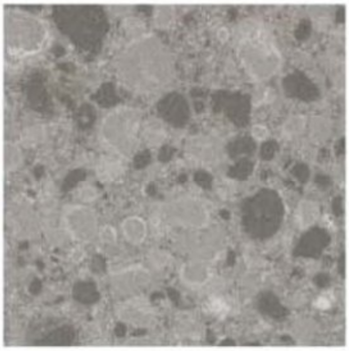




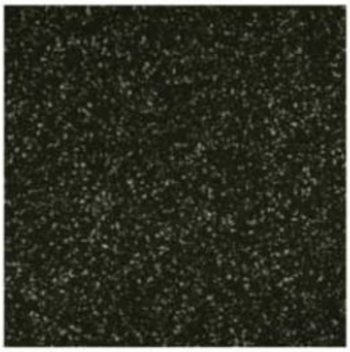


Smoky Ash 6140



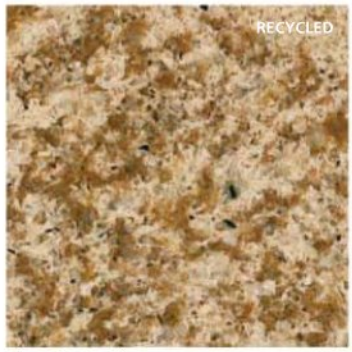


Dusty Stones 4040



Metallic Black 7185





Chocolate Truffle 6350



Organic White 4600



Buttermilk 4220







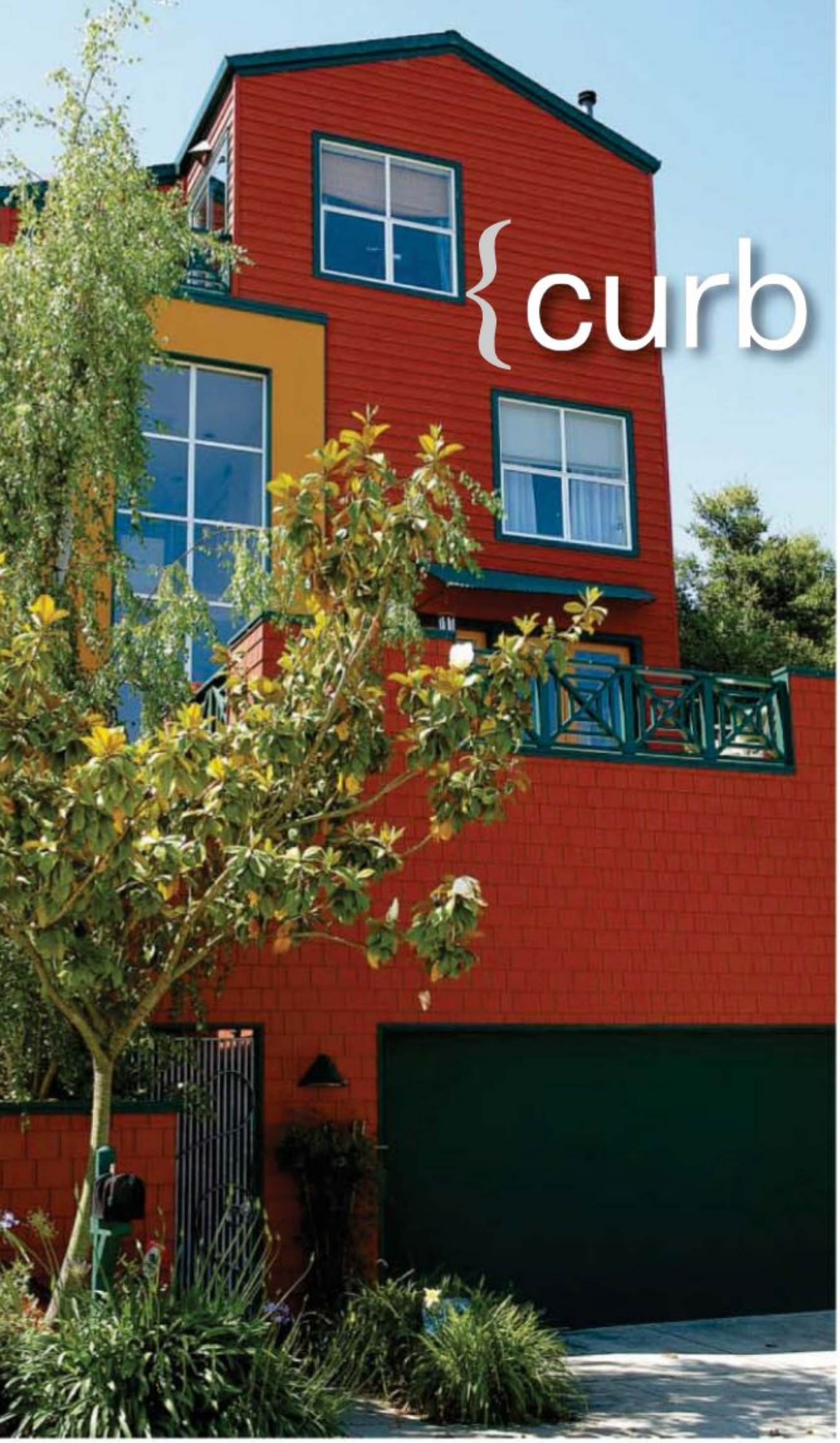
Introducing 8 New Expressive Colors

CaesarStone's unique ingenuity and ability to influence trends can be captured in a remarkable new lineup of surfaces that push the boundaries of creativity. The Color Expression '09 Collection offers an impressive recycled line, a new matte-hammered texture, and the first and only black metallic-accent surface — all covered for life by our **Lifetime* Warranty**.

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{curb appeal}

Bright color takes this facade from bland to bold

Written by **Chris Hughes**

When a house doesn't have a real focal point, color can help add personality. "Imagine if this house were just white. It would be very boring," says color expert and author Susan Hershman, who included this San Francisco Bay area home in her book, *House Colors* (Gibbs Smith, 2007), a guide to choosing the right hue for your home. Here, lots of bold color acts as an architectural element and highlights important features. The plainness of the facade becomes an asset and creates the effect of a minimalist painting. Gold pops with red to pique interest and distinguish the atrium, "but too many blocks of color and it would have looked like kids' blocks," Hershman says.

in the details

ENTER SOFTLY Beds of colorful perennials, an untamed flowering tree and a trellis loaded with greenery soften the hardness of the structure and make the stark street-level entrance more inviting. Tall trees planted in a raised bed seem to float around and up the side, drawing the eye in and upward.

GROUNDED BY GREEN The dark green garage doors add weight and substance to the foundation of the four-story home. Matching trim reigns in the big color blocks and outlines the shape of the home along the roofline; the atrium and balcony pull everything together.

SMOOTH MOVE Aside from the color, visual interest for this facade comes from a mix of textures: The linear patterns created by the cedar shingles and clapboard are balanced by the stucco of the atrium and the bold geometry of the balcony railing centered over the garage door. ■

PHOTOGRAPH: SUSAN HERSHMAN


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{going green}

With today's tax incentives and rebates, it's easier than ever to make your home eco-friendly.

Written by **Joy Manning**



CLAIM A FEDERAL TAX CREDIT OF UP TO $1,500. It's yours if you replace old windows, entry or garage doors with new more energy-efficient versions before the end of 2010.

You recycle. You carry reusable bags to the store. You've changed to compact fluorescent bulbs. Maybe you're carpooling or using public transportation to get to work. In all the inexpensive ways, you've gone green. But when it comes to installing a new energy system for your home, or even an energy-efficient appliance, well, that costs major money—or so you think.

More and more programs are being put in place across the country to make big green changes more cost-effective. These programs fall into a few broad categories that vary from state to state: loan programs, personal tax incentives, and rebate programs. Loan programs (and in some places, eco-friendly mortgage programs) provide homeowners with the funds to build green or make energy-saving improvements to their existing homes at a low interest rate. As a result, an option such as installing solar panels is rapidly becoming competitive with its more conventional counterparts, according to Rusty Haynes, spokesman for the Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency (DSIRE), an online clearinghouse for information on the many programs to help homeowners go green.

Tax incentives are a considerable boon for green-minded homeowners as well. These programs, which also vary substantially by state, allow for deductions on the purchase and installation price of a new energy-efficient system or equipment. In February, President Obama increased the tax credit for energy-efficient home improvements (such as replacing windows, doors and garage doors) to $1,500, and extended the deadline to the end of 2010.

Rebate programs may be the best option of all. "Rebate programs are very popular with anyone who likes money," says Haynes. They work like the retail rebates many of us are

PHOTOGRAPHS: THIS PAGE, JAMES YOCHUM; OPPOSITE, ENERWORKS SOLAR WATER HEATING



SWITCHING TO A SOLAR WATER-HEATING SYSTEM, fueled by energy from roof panels like these from Enerworks, for example, will lower your energy bill, earn you a tax credit and add to your property value.

already familiar with. "Say you install a $30,000 solar electric system. You can get a rebate ranging from $1 to $5 per watt—that means you can get back 10 to 50 percent of the cost of installation right there," says Haynes.

The only downside? A bit of red tape. Navigating the maze of community, state and federal programs—and finding the places where they overlap (and therefore pay off big)—can be a challenge. That's where resources such as DSIRE come in. DSIRE's Website (*dsireusa.org*) provides a user-friendly map of the United States. Just click on your state for a list of local grants and loans, tax programs, rebates and more. California, one of the most eco-friendly states in the country, has dozens of programs that pay you back for going green. Clicking on any state will also show you all federal incentives along with a plain-language summary of what they are all about.

Research is an important step in any home improvement project, especially if you want to save money, and small steps are probably the best first steps. For example, according to Haynes, it's easier and more cost-effective to install a solar water-heating system than to outfit your home with a comprehensive renewable-energy system like solar and wind. Luckily, there are programs, rebates and tax incentives available for small projects, too. You'll also want to investigate your community's net metering program, which makes it possible to store the extra power your new system (such as a solar or wind system) generates on the conventional power grid for later use. "Before net metering programs, you had to sell it back to the power company at a bad rate or store it yourself in bulky, expensive batteries," says Haynes.

However you choose to go green, be sure to check with your community or neighborhood association first. Some have strict rules about how homes should look. Even if you get an interest-free loan to install solar panels, it's not a wise investment if you can't put them up. ■

green pages

Here are a few more informative sites packed with info about saving green while living green:

THE NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LAB (*nrel.gov*) You'll find lots of easy-to-understand information about renewable energy here. Familiar renewable energy sources like solar and wind are outlined, along with other green technologies such as geothermal (which draws on the planet's internal heat) and biomass (which uses plant matter for power). The site's news section covers incentive programs.

THE EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY INFORMATION CENTER (*eere.energy.gov*) This site is hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy. Click on "Information Center" to access an info-packed page, including a section dedicated to finding tax incentives and grants. You'll also be able to tap into a wealth of information on programs that help with purchases of everyday things like insulation, windows, doors and water heaters, along with more specialized items such as solar and wind systems and fuel cells.

THE ALLIANCE TO SAVE ENERGY (*ase.org*) The Consumer Section of this site is loaded with useful tips. Download the booklet PowerSmart (a PDF file), which is full of energy- and money-saving ideas and provides up-to-the-minute information on federal tax incentives for making earth-friendly choices.

THE AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR AN ENERGY EFFICIENT ECONOMY (*aceee.org*) Go to the "Consumer Resources" section and download a handy document (PDF) that summarizes 2009's tax credits for everything from a new refrigerator to a new home.



{simple solutions}

saving energy

Written by **Bill Partsch**

Consumer concern over energy may have eased a bit with the fall in oil prices late last year, but cutting back on energy consumption is still a big priority. The good news is that many home energy-saving strategies are really easy to pull off. What's more, the ones that are pricey and/or labor-intensive are typically the ones that pay off the most in the long haul—and make you feel like a responsible citizen.

Take the alternative route If customers so request, many electric utilities will deliver power from eco-friendly energy sources, including wind, solar and others, at a modest premium. Check out *eere.energy.gov/greenpower* for options in each state.

Replace windows If your windows put just one sheet of glass between you and the outside, you should replace them. Double-glazed windows typically feature a low-emissivity (low-E) coating, and the gap between the sheets of glass is filled with an insulating gas (usually argon). These windows mitigate heat loss in cold weather, and depending on the region of the country, they usher in or ward off the sun's heat. If you have a double-glazed window and you see condensation between the glass, it means the seal has broken and you should replace that window.

Check the seal Exterior air leaks—around windows, doors, ventilation fans, etc.—can force heating and air conditioning systems to work harder, using more energy. A home-energy audit performed by a professional technician can spot these air leaks, along with areas of inadequate insulation. While tending to the exterior, homeowners should also inspect heating and cooling ducts. Leaks within these systems are energy wasters, too. Start with your local power utility to find an energy audit technician.

Don't rinse If you have a dishwasher, prerinsing dishes in the sink is a sin. It wastes hot water, energy and precious free time performing a task your dishwasher is just going to repeat. Just scrape off large pieces of food, load up the dishwasher and let it rip. Years ago, dishwashers averaged about nine gallons per load. Nowadays, typical models average six gallons per cycle, and Energy Star units come in at four gallons.

PHOTOGRAPHS: THIS PAGE, ANDERSEN WINDOWS; OPPOSITE, AIMEE HERRING

No tanks Standard water heaters keep heated water in a tank. If that water is unused, it just sits there, and if the temperature drops, the appliance will warm the same water again. This waste of energy doesn't occur with tankless water heaters. Instead, these compact units deliver hot water on demand and virtually endlessly. They cost more than tank versions, but a $300 federal tax credit for qualified models largely offsets the price difference, and you can expect a savings of about $100 or more per year in water-heating costs versus a tank unit.

Curtains for you You can enhance the insulation value of any window with the right window treatment. Some draperies are designed as thermal barriers, but you can also add an insulating layer, such as a napped lining, to standard curtains. The idea is to keep the heavier cool air near the window from entering the heated room. Layering curtains over shades provides an additional layer of insulation, too.

Light makes right Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) have been much publicized in the past year, and for good reason. They really do save lots of energy over ordinary incandescent bulbs. Earlier types of CFLs gave off a harsher light, but the newest versions are more like incandescents. The government says one household CFL, over its lifetime, can save $30 in electricity over a comparable incandescent bulb.

Replace old filters This is an easy one. Filters for heating and air-conditioning systems are inexpensive and easy to replace. The cleaner the filter, the more efficiently the system runs.

Get with the program Ever forget to turn off the air-conditioning (or turn down the heat) when you leave in the morning? Programmable thermostats solve this problem by letting you set the temperature for different times of day. Depending on the model, you can program the same settings for every day or employ different settings for weekdays and weekends.

Look to the sun Adding solar energy involves a substantial investment up front, but that cost is largely offset thanks to lower energy bills, higher property value and lower taxes. The federal government offers a tax credit of 30 percent of the cost of either a photovoltaic system (for general household electricity) or a solar water heater. This credit is unlimited for photovoltaic systems, but for solar water heaters, it tops out at $2,000. Despite this limitation, a solar water heater costing about $5,000 after the tax credit can pay for itself in five to seven years.

Making the upgrade Running an old appliance (anything more than 10 years old would fit the bill) uses more energy, and consequently costs more, than operating a current model. When shopping for replacements, a little homework can maximize energy savings. Over its lifetime, an Energy Star-rated washing machine can save $550 in energy bills versus a standard model, according to the federal government. Start at *energystar.gov*, and compare EnergyGuide labels, which are affixed to every appliance sold in the U.S. ■



Written by **Mervyn Kaufman** Photographs by **Philip-Clayton Thompson**

A bathroom is a magnet for stuff—toiletries, towels, grooming gear and cleaning supplies. Often, especially in older homes, it's an odd space, carved out of a closet or tucked into an eave, which means there's not a lot of room for cabinetry. Reigning in the clutter can help even the smallest bathroom look new. The first step is to clean out and edit: Making a tiny bath with limited storage work efficiently takes discipline as well as planning. Pare down supplies to only what you use regularly, store back-up elsewhere and toss anything you don't need. Then examine your space, and steal some of these ideas, to make the most of every inch.

{unclutter} *your bathroom*



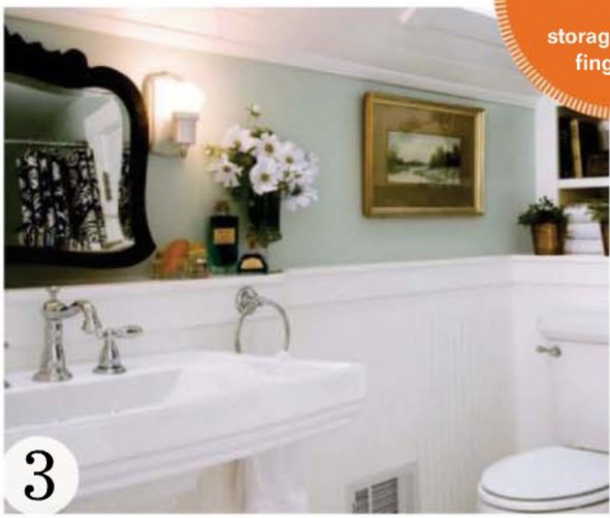
With smart editing and a sharp eye for wasted space, even the smallest bathroom can look tidy and organized.





smart solutions

storage at your fingertips





1} **TUCKED IN** Take advantage of unused wall space wherever you find it. Here, cubbies built under the eaves eke out a little more storage for supplies and a decorative item or two. **2}** **RIGHT ANGLES** Two shelves mounted in the corner of the stall shower provide just enough room for soap, sponges, shampoo and conditioner. Large wall hooks beside the shower keep towels at the ready. **3}** **ON THE EDGE** A pedestal sink saves space, but doesn't leave room for much more than a bar of soap. A shallow ledge topping beadboard wainscoting can hold most grooming essentials. **4}** **SWEET AND LOWDOWN** No room for a linen closet? Fresh towels, rolled handsomely, stand up in an attractive basket set on the floor beside the sink.

product picks



Molger wall shelf. $5. *ikea.com*.



ClosetMaid Master Suite custom shelving, about $900 for combination shown. *closetmaid.com*.



Cumberland seagrass baskets. $40 for two. *ballarddesigns.com*.



Vanity-filler pullout with glass trays. About $600. *merillat.com*. ■

{toolbox}

Handy must-haves to get the job done

Written by **Christine Cameron**



COVER UP

This smart two-toned Gardenwear Set from Accents de Ville provides all the gardening apparel gear you need for coping with the elements. $65, 800-663-2384.



BARRELED OVER

With internal springs to easily pop open and a no-tear shell, the sturdy 30-gallon Hardshell Kangaroo Gardening Container is great for hauling piles of garden debris. $26, *fiskars.com*.

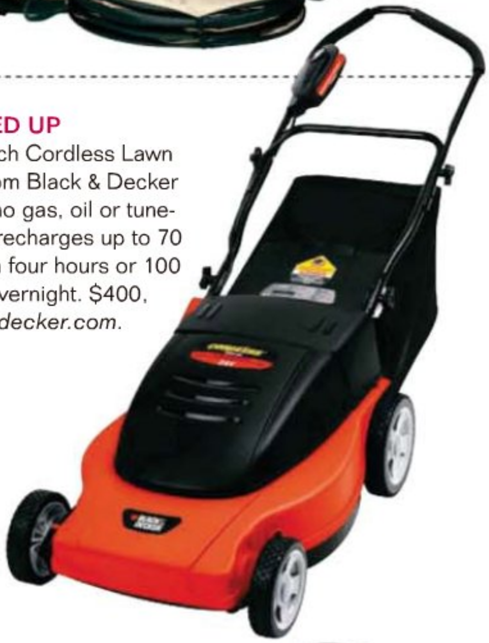
STAY DRY

Resistant to lawn fertilizers and other contaminants, these waterproof, air mesh-lined Muckster shoes are sure to keep mud and moisture from soaking your socks. $65, *avalongarden.com*.



CHARGED UP

The 19-inch Cordless Lawn Mover from Black & Decker requires no gas, oil or tune-ups, and recharges up to 70 percent in four hours or 100 percent overnight. $400, *blackanddecker.com*.





DIG IN

Both sturdy and stylish, these Donut Shovels come with a handy cover and their easy-to-grip handles make breaking up stubborn, hard ground virtually effortless. $60 each, 800-663-2384.

ROUND ABOUT

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{toolbox}



GOOD GRIP

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TRIM AND TIDY

For those hard-to-reach shrubs, the Craftsman Extendable Handle Hedge Shear has adjustable handles that range from 15 to 26 inches with narrow blades near the tip—perfect for shaping and trimming. $16, *sears.com.*



NICE 'N EASY

The GardenPlus Adjustable Bulb Planter makes planting flower beds a snap. $4, *lowes.com.*



SWEET SPOUT

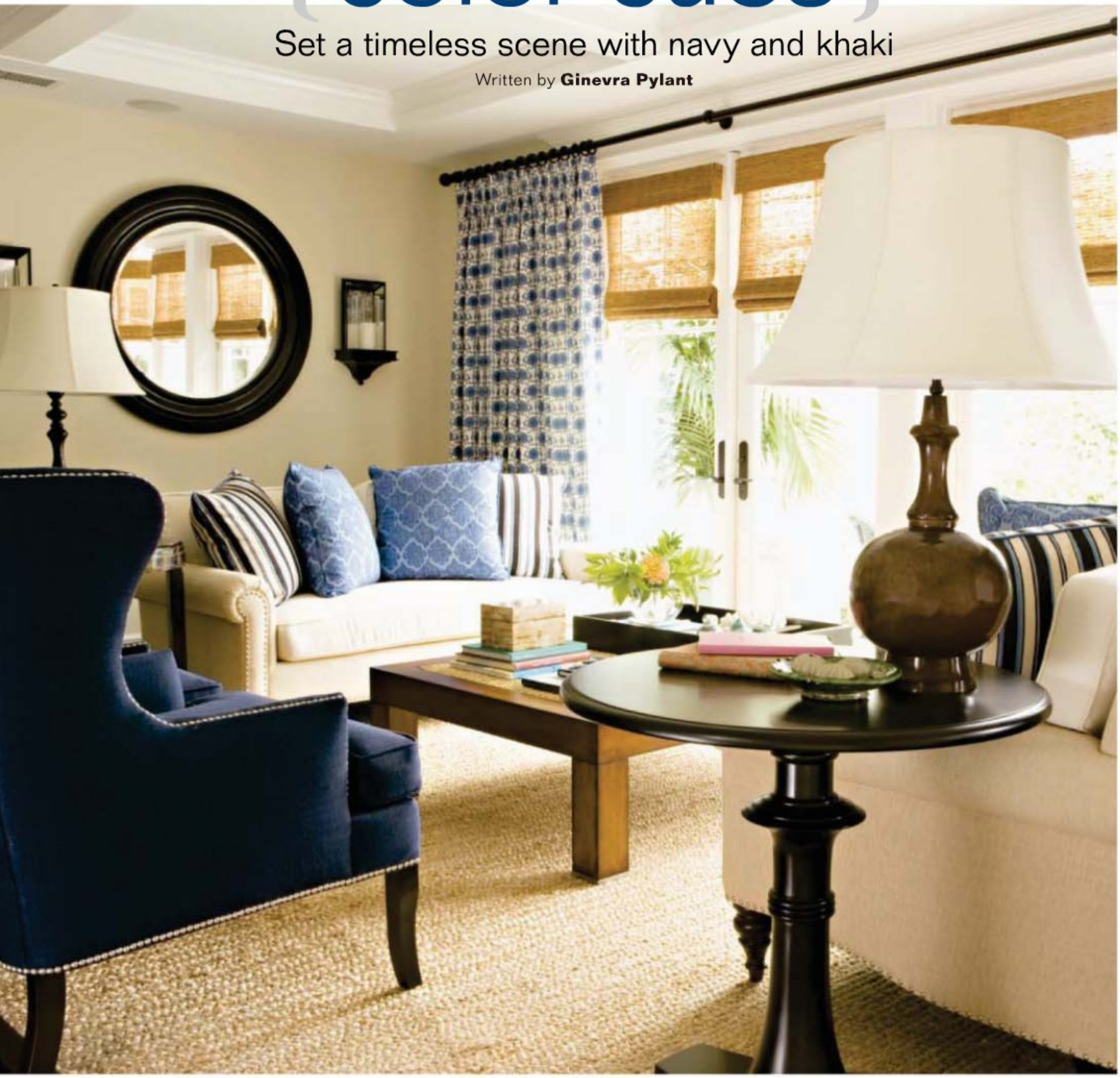
The sturdy Oxo Good Grips Outdoor Pour & Store Watering Can has a rotating spout and a nonslip handle, and carries up to 2 gallons of water. It's ideal for container gardening. $25, *oxo.com.* ■


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{color cues}

Set a timeless scene with navy and khaki

Written by **Ginevra Pylant**



PHOTOGRAPH: KAREN MILLET STYLING: DARRA BAKER

Decked out in khaki and navy, this room feels casual, yet refined. It's prep-school uniform meets surf and turf—steeped in tradition but with a laid-back feel. "The home is about a mile from the ocean, and we wanted to create a breezy, coastal look," says designer Katy Naghavi, of Atelier Katayon. "Fresh, sandy tones on walls and crisp white trim give the room a classic appearance. The navy grounds the room and helps anchor the space visually."

"To avoid creating a heavy look, use navy as an accent on just a chair or a single wall."
—Katy Naghavi, interior designer









1} SUBTLE SHADE
An understated light fixture casts a warm glow. Urban Oasis Three Light Pendant Chandelier, $249. 800-782-1967; *lampsplus.com.*

2} BAND TOGETHER
Blue and khaki striped pillows unify the scheme. James Stripe 20×20-inch pillow cover, $29. 888-779-5176; *potterybarn.com.*

3} SEATING ARRANGEMENT
Navy upholstery freshens formal furnishings. Chelsea Wing Chair in Navy linen, $1,550. 888-922-4108; *wshome.com.*

4} FLOOR PLAN
Introduce warmth and texture with a natural woven rug. 3×5-foot Seascape Seagrass area rug, $69. 877-537-8539; *homedecorators.com.*

5} POINT OF VIEW
Frame windows with dark walnut hardware. Solid wood rods and ball finials in Espresso. 48×2-inch diameter rod, $50. 800-910-9836; *restorationhardware.com.*

6} INTRICATE BLUEPRINT
Add pattern with fabric. From left: Madura-Lapis, Maansi-Walnut and Mandu-Lapis. $150 per yard (trade only). 212-594-6006; *johnrobshaw.com.* ■





{before & after}

A drab California patio becomes an inviting outdoor room

Written by **Mervyn Kaufman**





BEFORE: With its cracked concrete slab and lack of shade, the old patio was stark and uninviting.

AFTER: A raised redwood deck and soon-to-be-vine-covered pergola helped turn the space into a welcoming oasis.

PROBLEM Built in 1937, this stucco-sided house in West Toluca Lake, California, was backed by a small, sparse concrete patio. After owning the house a few years, Richard G. Murphy decided that his outdoor space was wasted. Though he'd arranged chairs around an umbrella-topped table, it had little alfresco appeal and was rarely used.

SOLUTION Richard replaced the cracked surface with a redwood deck on concrete footings, putting the patio on the same level as the house. To make the space feel more roomlike, he enclosed it with redwood railings, low hedges and tall pillars supporting a pergola. Fast-growing trumpet vines will climb the pillars and weave their way across the top, making a leafy ceiling. Bothered by the windowless house wall facing his new deck, Richard hung up a 4×5-foot mirror. Now anyone sitting there can view the rest of the landscaped quarter-acre property without twisting. And the mirror reflects sunlight as well as the pleasing view. ■

in the details

TRANSITIONS A single step connects the patio to a path leading to the driveway and garage on the right, gardens on the left. Both the step and path are brick laid in a basket-weave pattern.

FINISHES Knowing it would soon be covered, Richard simply stained the pergola white. "But the pillars and railings were painted in high-gloss enamel. I wanted to be able to keep up that shiny wet look I like," he says.

FURNISHINGS A wood bench, lounges, chairs and tables, even a rug, add to the feeling that this is an outdoor room. "I can actually accommodate more guests here than in my living room," says Richard.

PHOTOGRAPH: MARK LOHMAN


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Produced by **Ayn-Monique Tetreault-Rooney Klahre**



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IN THE DETAILS
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BACK IN BLACK

The Dolly Madison Kitchen Island Cart combines great hidden storage with a functional food prep top and sweet towel bars. *target.com*.



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A rubbed black finish gives the Somerset Kitchen Island an antique look, and a drop-down leaf provides additional counter space. 800-967-6696; *crateandbarrel.com*. ■





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Vast Enterprises has introduced a collection of pavers that are 95-percent recycled tires and plastic. About $7 per square foot. *vast-enterprises.com*.

{shopping for} *pavers*

Written by **Scott Gibson**

Patios and walkways can do much more than merely provide access or outdoor living space. Given the right choice of materials, these surfaces can help control flooding, replenish underground water supplies and even reduce the number of old tires and plastic bottles clogging local landfills. All that, plus they keep your shoes from getting muddy.

Driveways, patios and walkways are typically asphalt or concrete, which are poured all at once to form a monolithic slab. Contractors can dye or emboss concrete with decorative patterns for more visual appeal.

Pavers, on the other hand, are placed one at a time, often over a bed of compacted gravel and sand. Local stone yards or landscapers offer a variety of materials in many colors, sizes and price ranges. The most common choices are brick, stone and concrete, although increased interest in green building materials has led to a new option—pavers made from recycled plastic. All of them have pros and cons (see chart, page 38).

STYLE OPTIONS

In general, climate shouldn't be a concern when selecting pavers. Concrete, stone and kiln-fired brick all can handle weather's extremes. One consideration, however, is snow removal. Pavers that have become misaligned, or were set haphazardly in the first place, can snag the blade of a snow shovel or snow blower.

Aesthetically, pavers offer a wide range of decorative effects. Shapes range from precisely cut squares and rectangles to more organically shaped pieces that fit together like a jigsaw puzzle and give outdoor areas the feel of an informal English garden. Brick pavers are uniform in shape, if not in color, and often have a more formal, regimented look. Stone offers more variation in size, shape and coloring. Concrete is available in uniform shapes like bricks, or can be made to imitate the look of natural stone.

PRACTICAL MATTERS

Pavers take more time to install than a simple slab, and labor costs are consequently higher. But there are important advantages to installing this material: With all those joints, the surface is more flexible and therefore less likely to crack than concrete. If a paver does crack, or becomes stained or sinks out of alignment, it's easy to pop it out and replace or reset it.

In addition, the spaces between individual pavers give rain and snow melt a place to seep into the ground. ➤



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Natural stone is extremely durable. Tumbled stone pavers in a paredon pattern give any outdoor space a classic look. About $13 per square foot. *daltile.com*.

Paver Material	Pros	Cons	Price Range*
Brick	▶ Made from clay and other natural materials with excellent color retention ▶ Low maintenance ▶ Very durable ▶ Permeable versions offer improved drainage	▶ Limited range of sizes and colors ▶ Relatively small size of pavers slows installation	▶ $17–$20
Stone	▶ Wide selection of colors and textures ▶ Extremely durable ▶ Available in large, uneven slabs as well as rectangular shapes	▶ Higher initial cost ▶ Fitting uneven pieces is time-consuming and may require cutting ▶ Some stone may absorb stains unless sealed	▶ $30–$35+
Concrete	▶ Lower initial cost ▶ Many colors and patterns to choose from	▶ Not as durable as stone or brick ▶ May fade over time ▶ Porous surface prone to staining	▶ $15–$25
Plastic	▶ Lower initial cost ▶ Made from recycled materials, such as old tires and plastic bottles ▶ Permeable versions offer improved drainage ▶ Lighter and easier to handle and cut ▶ May come with composite grid for simple installation	▶ Limited color and size offerings ▶ No long track record for durability ▶ Like composite decking, does not have an entirely natural look ▶ Distribution limited	▶ $15–$25

*Prices are by square foot, including installation. Labor and material costs vary by region and product. Source: Mason Contractors Association of America.

This will earn you points if you're trying to get your home certified as green under the LEED (the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) rating program. Runoff from parking lots, driveways and other impermeable surfaces can cause flooding while also washing pollutants into storm drains and local waterways. However, when water soaks back into the ground, it helps restore underground aquifers and reduces the load on municipal wastewater treatment plants.

Some pavers—brick and composites—are available in permeable versions to reduce runoff even further.

THE RIGHT BASE

Stone tile or brick can be set on a concrete base and the joints filled with mortar. The result is a more formal appearance, but it doesn't address the water-runoff issue, and the surface is susceptible to cracking like a poured surface. When placing pavers over a compacted base of gravel and sand, installers use a gas-driven compactor to vibrate the material into a dense, even field. Next is a thinner layer of sand or stone dust that's leveled with a long piece of lumber or metal called a screed. Pavers are set and leveled in this bed and joints are filled with the same sandy material, then swept or sprayed with a hose to remove excess.

All of this prep work takes as much time and energy as setting the pavers themselves, maybe more. But without a good base, the surface is likely to develop sags, humps and other problems over time as the subsurface layer compacts. And a well-drained foundation for pavers lessens the chance of frost heaves.

No do-it-yourselfer will try to pour his own asphalt driveway—it takes heavy equipment and professional experience. But setting pavers requires simple tools and basic skills—well within the capacity of an industrious homeowner. It's a plus when you can offset the cost of materials with a little sweat equity. Instructions are easy to find (check just about any bookstore, library or home center) and the results will last for many years. ■

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SKILL LEVEL: Beginner

MATERIALS: Yardstick; pencil; 72×17×1-inch board; table saw, circular saw, jigsaw or hand saw; C-clamps; wood glue; hammer; 16-penny 1½-inch finish nails; 12×12×⅛-inch luan; Saral paper; drill with ⅜-inch bit; ½-inch brads; putty knife; wood filler; sandpaper; router (optional); precut decorative wooden 2-inch-diameter rosette; 3-inch paintbrushes; primer; paint; polyurethane ■

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Set in a random pattern, interlocking concrete stones with the look and color of ancient cobbles were used to pave the courtyard. Exterior walls were faced with recyclable brick veneer.

{earth-friendly home}

An idea-packed home blends sustainability with utility and style

Written by **Mervyn Kaufman** Photographs by **Karen Melvin** Styled by **Jay Bruns**

"Our goal was to show how to go green beautifully," says Kelly Boyett, an interior designer with Eric Cohler Design in New York. Late last year, she teamed up with Todd Young, AIA, CID, of KKE Architects in Minneapolis, and Dean Spratt, of PCL Construction Services in Burnsville, Minnesota, to produce the Good & Green Showhouse for the Mall of America in Minneapolis. "We aimed to prove that whether you're building new or remodeling an existing home you can be eco-friendly without compromising your vision or your style," says Boyett.

The team's first step was to craft a structure that would be eco-friendly top to bottom. According to architect Todd Young, the team designed "a one-story, U-shaped structure whose center-placed entry led to a sleeping wing on one side and an activity/living area on the other." Even the floor plan was environmentally sensitive. "The power-saving layout allowed more daylight to reach the rooms, and also increased the opportunity for cross-ventilation, which would decrease the need for artificial cooling," says Young, adding that the energy-efficient heating/cooling system was designed to supply a continuous flow of clean air.

From a materials perspective, builder Dean Spratt notes that from rooftop to paving stones, and from wood studs to paint, the team's focus was on energy-efficient,





ABOVE: Living room walls and ceiling were coated with non-VOC paint in three tones. The sofa cover is 100 percent organic unbleached cotton; the pillow covers are also organic. The armchair frames were made from sustainable hardwoods; the fabric, from natural, plant-based fibers—in this case, linen.

RIGHT: Mounted on a steel frame, the dining room tabletop is made of wood salvaged from a razed church. For aging, craftsmen used a torch to make burn marks along the edges. The unbleached organic cotton chair covers can be reversed for a change of mood; the alternate color is pale blue.





LEFT: Set within the kitchen's pale-painted cabinets are accessories designed for optimal organizing and accessibility. To the left of the dishwasher drawer is a pull-out recycling center with four separate bins.

eco-friendly products that could either be reused or recycled in some other form over time. One great feature was galvanized metal roofing: It may get hot under the summer sun but, because of its composition and light color, it doesn't transmit much heat. "It's also a long-term product," Young says. "It can last for 50 years or more." And, he adds, "much of today's metal roofing contains recycled material." Outdoors, the fireplace and adjacent walls were faced with faux-stone veneer, a recyclable man-made product. Exterior walls were framed with 2×6-inch studs, creating more space for insulation. Because fewer tall trees are harvested in the area, these studs consist of wood segments linked by finger joints, thus reducing the use of solid sawn lumber. The structure itself was wrapped in Oriented Strandboard (OSB) sheathing—layers of wood chips bonded with resins and wax—instead of plywood.

The outside walls were fiber-cement siding, a stable and durable product that holds low-VOC paint well. The concrete courtyard pavers, made to resemble natural stone, were manufactured and formed into hardy random shapes with realistic tones and textures. Both the sash and casement windows had low-E glazing that holds indoor heat in winter and repels outdoor heat in summer.

Inside, green surfaces, finishes and fixtures prevailed, too. Walls made of a gypsum wallboard contain up to 75 percent recycled material. Flooring throughout was either bamboo or cork. Both are "natural, rapidly renewable resources," says Spratt. A man-made material of 93 percent

RESOURCES

COURTYARD (page 51)—Fireplace walls: Eldorado Stone. Fireplace: Napoleon Fireplaces. Pavers: Belgard Pavers. Awning and pillow fabrics: Sunbrella. Furniture: Lee Industries. Grill: Sears. Outdoor lights: Creative Lighting. Plants: Gerstens. Roof material (not shown): Metal Roofing Alliance.

LIVING ROOM (opposite)—Casement windows: Andersen. Bamboo flooring: Lumber Liquidators. Sofa, organic fabric: Lee Industries. Side chairs, pillows, organic fabrics: C.R. Laine. Coffee table: The Old Wood Co. Buffet, side table, wall art: Baker Knapp & Tubbs. TV: Sears. Accessories: Baker Knapp & Tubbs, Bloomingdale's.

KITCHEN (left) Cabinets, cabinet lighting: KraftMaid. Appliances: Kenmore. Countertops: CaesarStone. Sink, faucet, detergent dispenser: Elkay. Bamboo flooring: Lumber Liquidators. Pendant light: Creative Lighting. Accessories: Baker Knapp & Tubbs, Bloomingdale's.

DINING ROOM (left) Dining table: The Old Wood Co. Dining chairs, slipcovers: Lee Industries. Accessories: Baker Knapp & Tubbs, Bloomingdale's. Bamboo flooring: Lumber Liquidators.

STORAGE/MECHANICAL ROOM (not shown)—Trane.

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS



ABOVE: The guest room's full-size bed is steel framed with a handmade painted-wood headboard designed as overlapping squares. Bedding and pillow covers are organic cotton, as is the cushion on the rattan armchair. The side table, with a whitewashed finish, is a Moroccan-inspired design.

natural quartz crystals plus 7 percent pigments and polymer resins served as kitchen countertops, while lighting in each room came from either low-energy halogen or compact fluorescent fixtures.

Conserving human energy as well as physical energy was another compelling design consideration. So in the kitchen, there were no wasted spaces. Instead, in the cooking area, a step-saving appliance stack-up—microwave and wall oven—kept movement to a minimum. On the cooktop-work side of the island, pull-out drawers offered storage space for cooking utensils and heavy pots and pans. In the laundry room, appliances and storage were neatly contained on one wall. Beneath the undermount sink is a long drawer that tilts out, making sponges and brushes easily accessible. Another drawer pulls out to reveal an ironing board that folds down for use.

In the master bath, the toilet uses about 20 percent less water than standard 1.6-gallon models, and the three-function spray showerhead delivers 1.75 gallons per minute, saving up to 30 percent of the water used by conventional hand showers. "Walls throughout are mostly pale to reflect more light," Boyett says. Overall, concludes the architect, "its style is a modern take on a Midwest cottage from the early 19th century." ■

The GREENING of the Mall of America

To display a dazzling array of attainable eco-friendly ideas for the home, Hachette Filipacchi Media U.S. assembled a creative team to produce the Good & Green Showhouse for the Mall of America in Minneapolis. Open to the public for five weeks late last year, the showhouse attracted some 40,000 visitors and showcased innovative green products from siding to side chairs. Almost 30 companies participated as sponsors, donors or lenders of product. All of the furnishings and materials are either earth-friendly products, says designer Kelly Boyett notes, or are made using environmentally friendly manufacturing processes.



ABOVE: In the master bath, cherry cabinetry contains dual vanities separated by a tall unit with a pullout bottom section containing a laundry bin. Stainless steel sinks are raised a bit to make room for storage drawers.

RESOURCES

GUEST ROOM (opposite)—Windows: Andersen. Bamboo flooring: Lumber Liquidators. Bed: Select Comfort. Organic bedding: Bloomingdale's. Chair, table: Baker Knapp & Tubbs.

MASTER BATH (left)—Windows: Andersen. Cork flooring: Lumber Liquidators. Cabinets: KraftMaid. Tub, tub faucet, toilet, shower fittings/base/teak grate (not shown): Kohler. Sinks, sink faucets: Elkay. Countertops, tub deck/apron: CaesarStone. Accessories: Bloomingdale's.

MASTER BEDROOM (below)—Windows: Andersen. Flooring: Lumber Liquidators. Bed: Select Comfort. Organic bedding, throw: Bloomingdale's. Lounge chair, ottoman, wall art, accessories: Baker Knapp & Tubbs. Closet system (not shown): California Closets.



In the violet-painted master bedroom, a simple steel frame supports organic-cotton bedding. The top of the side table is reclaimed chestnut; the base is steel. The lounge chair and ottoman are upholstered with fibers regenerated from soft-drink bottles and then elegantly covered in natural linen.

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PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL DYER



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Fresh Outlook

A San Francisco Victorian gets an overhaul with a lively palette, a kitchen redo and a lot more space

Written by **Bernadette Baczynski**

Photographs by **Paul Dyer**

Styled by **Sarah Alba**







TOP: Excavating the yard and converting the basement into a garage gave the family valuable off-street parking. The wood siding on the second-floor addition was carefully matched to the existing exterior.

ABOVE: The old exterior was quaint and charming, although the tiny front yard didn't provide the homeowners with usable space.

BELOW: The living room's location and size were fine for the family; the room simply needed some cosmetic updates.



LEFT: The living room was freshened up with new paint and refinished oak floors. A new insert and contemporary mantel make the fireplace the room's focal point; the existing floor plan remained the same.



Life has changed a lot for Joe and Katie Morford since they moved into their San Francisco home in 1996. "Before we had our daughters, the old layout was fine," says Katie, "but when they started arriving, the house quickly got too small." The 1908 classic had originally been a compact one-story house with a basement and an unfinished attic space. A small, inefficient kitchen and dining area were added to the back in the '80s; a master bedroom and bath had been built over the kitchen, but the existing attic was left unfinished. And like many San Francisco homes, there was no garage or off-street parking.

Instead of moving, which Joe and Katie briefly considered, they decided to stay and make their house more family-friendly. Eight years ago, with their second daughter on the way, the couple sought the help of local architect Andrew Mann, of Andrew Mann Architecture. The Morfords knew that the unfinished attic had potential for extra bedrooms. Katie, a professional food writer,



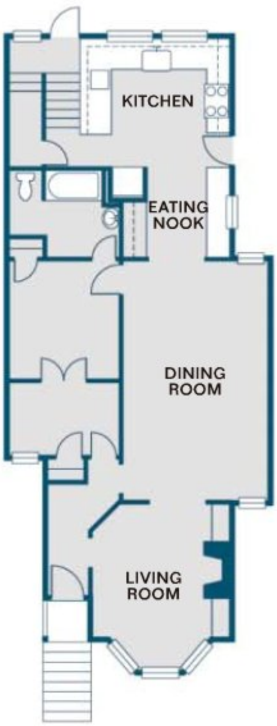
ABOVE: Before, the old kitchen, with its green tile counters, was tiny and outdated; the doorway from the dining room directed foot traffic through the main work area.

TOP: Existing windows were retained, but the kitchen is entirely new. Subway tiles, a deep farmhouse sink, SlateScape counters and clean lines give it the professional look Katie needs for classes she teaches. An antique butcher block serves as an island.

FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ



FIRST FLOOR BEFORE
The old kitchen and dining area had been added to the home years before, but their awkward configuration made it difficult for the family to function.



FIRST FLOOR AFTER
By moving the kitchen to the back, Mann opened the new large space to backyard views.

RIGHT: The old stairway had been open, so Mann built a half-wall on the lower level to accommodate the kitchen counter. The doorway on the landing leads to the backyard.

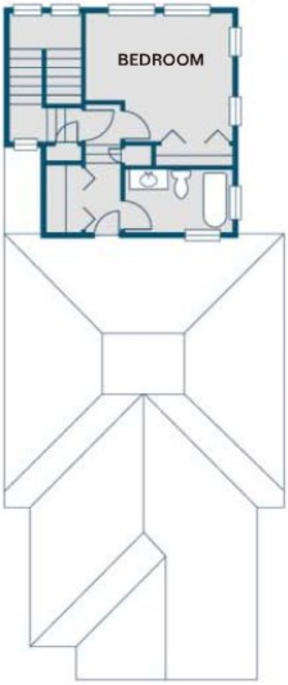


BELOW: A new breakfast bar and serving counter occupy the former kitchen space. The doorway to the dining room was enlarged for better traffic flow and to connect spaces visually.

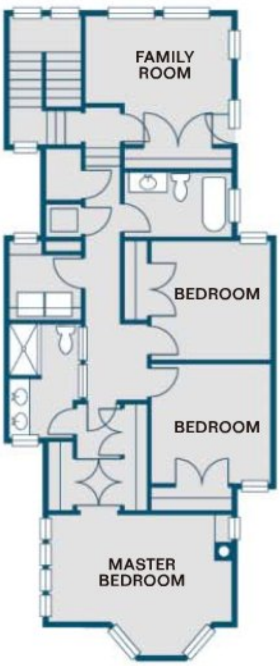




Located between the living room and the kitchen, the dining room received fresh paint to match the accent color in the living room's bookcases. The room's configuration remained the same.



SECOND FLOOR BEFORE
A master bedroom and bath had been built above the '80s kitchen addition, but the original attic space remained untouched.



SECOND FLOOR AFTER
Creating a new second story provided ample room for a new master suite and bedrooms for the girls; the laundry room is conveniently located by the bedrooms.

FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ



ABOVE: The new second-floor family room occupies the area that had been the master bedroom. Although the room opens to the top of the stairway, it can easily be turned into an additional bedroom as the girls grow up.

also wanted a kitchen that would serve both family and the classes that she teaches occasionally. Beyond that, they wanted to retain the home's Victorian feel but give it a modern edge. And a garage was a must-have.

The plan Mann devised would require 18 months, from initial planning through completion. The front yard's elevation made it possible to tunnel directly into the basement from the street to create a tuck-under garage. The first floor's basic configuration was good, too, with the exception of the layout of the kitchen. "We already had a lot of living space, and we wanted a kitchen to match," says Katie. Mann resolved the problem by switching the locations of the kitchen and eating area. The move also allowed him to enlarge the doorway to create an entrance into the room. The old kitchen now houses a breakfast bar, which can serve as a buffet when the family entertains. The new kitchen overlooks the backyard and gives Katie the room she needs to cook family meals and to test recipes.

Creating the second story addition required some major work. The bedroom above the kitchen stayed in place, becoming a family room—"It's where we watch



TV and play games together," Katie says—and the existing master bath was renovated for the girls' use. But Mann had the front two thirds of the roof torn off to make use of the unfinished attic as usable second-floor space. The new addition now houses two bedrooms for the three girls, a master suite and bath in front, and a convenient laundry room, which includes a sunny window. To bring more light into the upstairs interior, Mann turned the hallway ceiling into a skylight. Transoms above the doorways to bedrooms and baths add a period touch that also allows light to filter between spaces.

The home's exterior underwent a significant transformation, but because of Mann's attention to blending old and new, it looks as if the original has remained untouched. The nicest compliment, Mann recalls, came from a cousin who drove by with him to check out the project. Says Mann, "She looked up at the house and asked, 'What did you do?'" ■

ABOVE: The new master bedroom, which overlooks the city, is located in the front of the house in what had been unfinished attic space. The column by the window alcove encases the chimney from the fireplace below.

RIGHT: Shades of pink combine with lots of white to create a cozy bedroom that two of the daughters share. For comfort on tiny feet, floors are carpeted; the ceiling follows the angles of the new sloping roofline, giving the small room some architectural distinction.







what was done

- **CONVERTED** attic into a usable second floor to include three bedrooms, two baths, a family room, and a laundry room
- **EXCAVATED** basement and front yard for one-car garage and driveway
- **MATCHED** exterior wood siding on second-floor addition to existing siding on lower levels
- **RENOVATED** main level, retaining floor plan, bringing interior walls up to earthquake codes and refinishing existing oak floors
- **REPLACED** wiring, plumbing and fireplace insert
- **RELOCATED** and enlarged kitchen to include breakfast/serving bar, and installed new cabinets, counters and appliances

ABOVE: Instead of closing in the structural wall (encasing the chimney) entirely, Mann cut through to add a window with a small built-in dresser. Bookshelves, a drawer, and its proximity to the bed, let the dresser function as a side table.

RIGHT: The girls' new bathroom—formerly the master bath—complements the look and colors of their rooms. An old dresser was adapted to house the sink; a clawfoot tub, hexagonal floor tiles and vintage mirror are compatible with the home's age.







Warm & Welcoming

Easy upgrades turn a bland spec house into a character-filled home

Written by **William Weathersby Jr.**
Photographs by **Carlos Domenech**
Styled by **Joy Moore**



White-painted wood plantation shutters with a Bahamas-style pullout treatment at the top add architectural interest to the living room windows. Crown molding and a ceiling fan are warm touches to the 11-foot ceiling of the room. A group of nine prints depicting coral formations creates a focal point along one wall.

Renowned for his deft use of texture, color and scale, interior designer T. Keller Donovan recently applied his signature tailored style to a Pennsylvania couple's second home in Lake Worth, Florida. The 2,300-square-foot, three-bedroom house resides in a gated community and had the advantages of a nicely flowing floor plan and 11-foot ceilings. But, being a builder's spec house, it had a "cookie-cutter feeling," Donovan says. So the designer introduced some simple interior upgrades to inject the rooms with sophisticated yet spirited flavor. "The rooms were generously sized, but needed architectural details, like moldings and shutters, to create spaces with an inviting, human scale," he says.

"We wanted a house that was warm and welcoming, without being too fussy," says the owner. Taking a cue from the Florida locale, Donovan worked with a sand-and-sea palette of textured neutral surfaces and finishes infused with graphic punches of blue and white. Cool and classic, the limited palette ties the rooms together with a calming sense of continuity. Ceramic tile floors in a sandy hue





ABOVE: Despite the sunny location, the breakfast nook lacked warmth. Donovan layered soft textiles and inviting furnishings to create a cozy space (right).

ABOVE: Open to the kitchen, the family room features check upholstery that adds a unified scale. Drapery panels soften the look of the sliding glass door while shutters emphasize the transom windows.



ABOVE: Donovan added architectural definition in the kitchen with molding on the center island. A collection of new metal-framed clocks became an inexpensive art element in the potentially wasted space above the cabinets. A new valance above shutters balances the height of the window over the sink with the cabinets.

BELOW: A small window, barren backsplash and characterless island base left the kitchen feeling cold.



ground the spaces with a visual flow throughout. To add architectural interest, Donovan employed white plantation-style shutters for the windows in most rooms. "It's an easy-to-maintain, crisp look that is streamlined and evokes the Florida locale," Donovan says. The filtered sunlight also helps regulate the temperature of each room. Ceiling fans enhance the tropical mood, while white crown moldings accent creamy painted walls for a finished look. And crisp, plush furnishings and boldly patterned accents add a layer of fresh, classic style. "Keeping fabrics to one or two choices per room creates a modern, tailored feeling," Donovan says.

In the kitchen, the owners worked with the builder to select cabinetry with a walnut finish set off with granite countertops and backsplashes of tumbled tile. Donovan enhanced the center island with strip molding set in a series of rectangles "for a more finished look," he says. A valance atop the shuttered window over the sink evens out the sight lines near the top of the cabinets, while a grouping of metal-framed clocks creates a graphic pattern above the cabinets in the otherwise dead space. Paired



A new built-in banquette follows the lines of the bay window in the breakfast nook, creating visual continuity with the blue striae upholstery of the banquette and chairs. Plantation shutters are a streamlined, uncluttered solution for light and privacy. A glass-top table keeps the compact space from seeming crowded. The bronze-finish pendant lamp was an affordable find from Pottery Barn.



The dark brown vinyl wallcovering creates an intimate feeling in the den/home office. White molding set two feet below the ceiling visually lowers the ceiling height. The sofa's viscose and linen upholstery is an easy-care neutral.





ABOVE: A blue-and-white pagoda-print wallpaper gives graphic punch to the powder room. "The wallpaper is crisp and fresh, and is an inexpensive solution in a small space," Donovan says.



ABOVE: An oriental toile fabric covers the headboard and dust ruffle in the master bedroom. The chair's blue striae upholstery is a fabric carried over from the kitchen. White piping adds a tailored feeling. Prints depicting Asian costumes add antique style while the neutral carpeting softens the room.

LEFT: The rooms had a cookie-cutter quality, completely lacking in architectural detail.

what was done

- **ADDED** plantation-style shutters in most rooms to establish continuity throughout the house while creating character and a custom look. They also help regulate heating and cooling in the Florida climate.
- **INSTALLED** crown moldings and trim to enhance the architectural interest of standard drywall and a basic kitchen island.
- **INTRODUCED** sleek, practical ceramic tile flooring in a sand-colored hue to establish a flow from room to room. Natural-hued rugs keep the look light underfoot.
- **INJECTED** graphic prints and texture with fabric used on pillows, ottomans and headboards and with wallpaper to give punch to serene spaces awash in textured solids.
- **INTEGRATED** new ceiling fans, which take advantage of 11-foot ceiling heights and enhance the tropical ambience.
- **CHOSE** a palette that works with the context—natural neutrals infused with sea-inspired blue and white keep the interiors tailored and unfussy.

with lattice-back chairs surrounding a glass-top table, a new built-in banquette adds an extra shot of character and takes advantage of the sunny space afforded by the bay window in the adjacent breakfast nook.

Wallpaper was another tool the designer employed to enrich the spaces with texture, pattern and personality. In the den, for example, which doubles as a home office, brown wallpaper with a subtle texture makes the space feel like a cozy retreat. White molding, set two feet below the ceiling, visually brings down the scale of the room. Donovan also took out the existing closet to create a niche where the desk now sits. Framed prints of palm trees wrap around the room at eye level to contrast with the dark walls. It's a different look from the creamy-walled backdrops elsewhere in the house, meant to convey a private inner sanctum.

"Keller's use of scale and space made our home inviting and comfortable," says the owner. "The blue, white and sand color scheme is easy to live with and care for, and the shutters are so practical while being attractive. We wouldn't change a thing." ■

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS

Money-saving makeovers that add comfort and function

small changes, BIG IMPACT

Written by **John Loecke**
Photographs by **Michael Partenio**
Styled by **Donna Talley**

It all started with a kitchen renovation and, more specifically, a stove. That's how designer and photo stylist Donna Talley explains the series of small changes she made to her Saratoga, New York, home over a period of two years. She wanted a larger stove, but there was a pass-through window between the kitchen and dining room that needed to be closed up in order to accommodate the ventilation for the larger appliance. Donna could have simply covered over the opening and moved on, but that would have left a boring blank surface. Instead, she had her contractor drywall only the kitchen side, leaving a recessed box in the dining room. Then, for just $300, she framed the new nook with decorative molding and added a pair of adjustable shelves to accommodate her collection of ironstone.

The shelf project, says Donna, taught her a valuable lesson about working with contractors: It's easier to get them to tackle a small job—like finishing out the nook—while they're working on something bigger. "If I had asked just for the niche, I'd have either paid an exorbitant price or I'd still be waiting," she says.

Inspired by this revelation, Donna asked the same contractor to take on a few more small projects a




before

RIGHT: Already a pretty focal point in the living room, the fireplace was widened to make room for a functional insert.



Mantel trim that harmonizes with the windows and reclaimed brick blend the newly functional fireplace seamlessly with the style of the old home.





ABOVE: Built-in shelves turn what was a cramped bedroom into a comfy hideaway for enjoying a good book.

ABOVE RIGHT: An enlarged doorway makes the baby grand piano the center of attention for dinner-time entertainment.

couple of days later. The first was to widen the doorway leading from the dining room to the adjacent room that houses her baby grand piano. The new doorway, which replaced a standard 3-foot opening, was modeled on one that connected the dining room to the living room. The result, says Donna, is that she doesn't feel removed from her guests when she entertains them with a song after dinner. "I can see them and they can see me," she says.

Next on the list: Getting a 140-year-old living room fireplace up and running again with a gas insert. To do so, Donna's contractor had to first widen and deepen the firebox by removing the mantel and a row of brick on each side of the firebox. He then added depth with a layer of old brick installed on the face of the box and crafted a new mantel that mimicked the old. The same reclaimed brick was also used to create a hearth.

The final change Donna made was to a 72-square-foot room on the second floor. "When I bought the house the room was used as a nursery, and a crib was about the only bed you could fit in it," she says. Not having a need for a tiny bedroom anymore, Donna converted the space into a cozy reading area by adding floor-to-ceiling built-in shelves along one wall. The shelves, which Donna designed with a carpenter, mimic the home's architectural details and are painted the same color as the trim. "The depth of the cases shrinks the width of the room by a foot, but the drama created by the wall of books and decorative objects actually makes the room feel bigger as the eye is drawn up to the ceiling," she says. ■

What Was Done

FIREPLACE UPGRADE

Took off existing mantel and removed 5 inches of brick from each side to create a wider box. Built out the box 7 inches to accommodate depth of gas insert, then constructed new mantel and painted. Added brick hearth and trimmed out in wood molding. Extended gas line to fireplace and connected insert.

Materials: Old brick to match existing; wood for mantel; gas insert; decorative stock molding; paint

Time: 6 days

Cost: **$2,000**

DOORWAY ENLARGEMENT

Knocked out door frame of room adjacent to dining room, widened opening and framed with new molding to match the scale and style of nearby opening to the living room. Painted.

Materials: Wood molding; paint

Time: 2 days

Cost: **$600**

CUSTOM BOOKCASES

Converted a small bedroom space into a reading nook by adding a wall of built-in shelves. Constructed two 4-foot-wide bookcases to fit side-by-side along 8-foot-wide wall. Framed out cases using molding that matches the existing baseboard and trim. Added pegs and holes for shelves. Painted cases and shelves to match trim to finish built-in look.

Materials: Wood; decorative molding; paint

Time: 2 weeks

Cost: **$1,000**

BUILT-IN DISPLAY NICHE

Put drywall over opening of pass-through on kitchen side. Reframed resulting box on dining room side of wall with new, beefier moldings. Added holes and pegs for adjustable shelf. Painted.

Materials: Sheet rock; wood for shelves; decorative molding; paint

Time: 1 day

Cost: **$300**

TOTAL: **$3,900**

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS



RIGHT: A new stove in the kitchen meant that the pass-through to the living room had to be closed.

AFTER: Instead of covering over the pass-through on the dining room side, Donna turned it into a display niche for her collection of glass and ceramic pieces.





ABOVE: "Glass doors on a track roller system close off the shower, while trough grills in the river-stone-tiled floor serve as drains," explains contractor Devin Remick, of Nantucket Building Company. The frosted shower window fronting the hall lets in light while providing privacy.

LEFT: A dreary beadboard, limited light and a scrunched vanity demanded a makeover.

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS

Serene Sanctuary

A contemporary splash enlivens an old home

Written by **Megan Fulweiler**
Photographs by **Gridley + Graves**



BEFORE The original wing contained a compact bedroom and an awkward bath.



AFTER The addition has ample room for a big bedroom and bath awash in personality.

During its recent remodel, this 18th-century house—one of Nantucket's oldest—proved to need more serious structural work than anticipated. Hired for the project, architects William McGuire and Steve Theroux, of the Nantucket Architecture Group, replaced a rear wing, added in the 1990s, that held the owners' cramped bedroom and bath with a two-story addition housing an efficient master suite.

From the outside, the home's antique persona complements its neighbors. Inside, however, there is a host of contemporary surprises, including the owners' slick new bath. "There weren't any baths in 1769," claims one of the homeowners. "But there's a lot of shared simplicity in colonial and modern architecture." In keeping with that idea, the new space is like a Shaker chair: beautifully streamlined and functional. Three windows pull in natural light, amplified by a sea of glass tile, mirrored medicine cabinets and an ingenious central glass-walled bathing area. Furthering the airy ambience (rare in a pre-Revolutionary house) as well practicality, half-walls define his-and-her areas each with its own sink, water closet and entry.

To introduce the spirit of serenity, interior designer Sandi Holland, of Nantucket House Design, cleverly steered her clients toward a fresh green-and-white combination, while the pristine wood-paneled ceiling and walls tap into both past and present. In the end, says McGuire, "these owners get the best of two worlds—a perfect blend of 18th and 21st centuries." ■

RIGHT: Caps of 3/8-inch-thick tempered glass on the half-walls echo the sinks. A polished chrome faucet and hand-held shower are high-profile amenities. Bonus? The tub's location affords a view of trees and sky.

FAR RIGHT: "We were aiming for transparency," says architect William McGuire. "Glass vanities with integrated sinks are mounted on steel wall brackets so that they appear to float." Set at the windows, the fixtures make the most of natural light.







SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS



calm & order

Generous storage and plentiful prep space bring this Illinois kitchen up to speed

Written by **Megan Fulweiler**
Photographs by **Jim Yochum**
Styled by **Gisela Rose**



ABOVE: A serious lack of prep space, an awkwardly situated island and a cramped floor plan made using the old kitchen difficult for designer Kiki Luthringshausen's family of six.

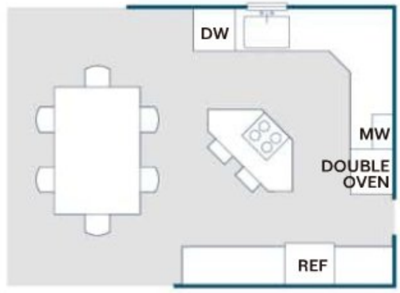
LEFT: A U-shaped layout enhances functionality with two islands and cabinets zooming to the ceiling. For easy entertaining, bar supplies are stashed in drawers below the auxiliary sink, a pullout bin handles trash and the wine fridge is within arm's reach.



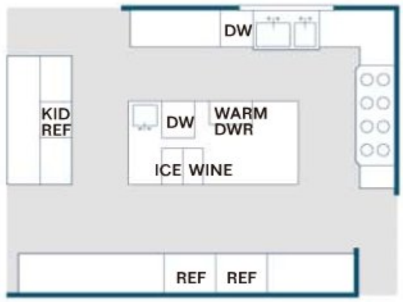


The small island—complete with compact fridge for holding snacks and drinks—allows the children to hang out with Mom without getting underfoot.

FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ



BEFORE
In the past, Kiki had to search for workspace and dining options were limited.



AFTER
New appliances are parked around the room's perimeter, freeing space for two storage-packed islands and a desk.

Not all great cooks are tidy. But interior designer Kiki Luthringshausen, who is known by family and friends for her fantastic meals, prides herself on being organized. "With four children—ages 4 to 14—you have to be neat," she says. So when she and her husband, Vincent Florack, decided to remodel their 10-year-old home northwest of Chicago, developing a fresh plan to improve its functionality was a top priority. "I thought hard about how I like to work," the designer admits. "I cook full dinners four or five times a week and almost always there are extra people."

True, the old galley wasn't a total disaster. But a shortage of prep space, an inadequate island and the location of a beefy dining table—blocking the family room—hindered chores and dampened spirits. Having seen to her clients' kitchens for years, Kiki decided the time had come to whip up her own handsome hub—one that would hum with efficiency.

First, to gain more square footage, she banished the dining table and extended the kitchen into the family room. This savvy maneuver made way for a

what was done

- **REMOVED** a table and expanded the kitchen into the family room to create a larger space and a better flow
- **DEVISED** a plan with a step-saving work triangle—from sink to range to fridge—and two islands to ensure room for cooking and gathering
- **INSTALLED** all-new cabinetry to take advantage of the larger footprint and more than double storage space
- **ENLARGED** the old window over the kitchen sink to act as a pass-through to the dining area
- **BOOSTED** the recessed lighting with fun and affordable mid-century style globe lights
- **STAINED** the existing white oak floor ebony for greater visual contrast with the light-colored room





ABOVE: The cubbyhole microwave is kid-handy without hogging counter space. Dishes and cups are easy to grab, too, but ribbed glass cabinet fronts soften the see-through view.

LEFT: Above the desk, a pull-down door conceals mail slots for each family member. "Once a year I go through the file drawers below and reorganize them," Kiki says.

slew of additional floor-to-ceiling painted maple cabinets and two islands: a 10-foot workhorse topped with honed black granite and a smaller version labeled the "kids' island" with a milky Calcutta marble top. "I fell in love with the Carrara marble mini-tiles I used for the range backsplash," Kiki says. But Calcutta is whiter and fits the 19th-century service-kitchen look better."

The pro-style range with its generous hood is the room's focal point and command central. Additional helpful features include a pot filler, a coil-wrapped prerinse faucet and a warming drawer—all of which translate into super practicality and no wasted steps.

"Everything I need is at my end of the work island," Kiki explains. "At the opposite end, Vincent has a sink and wine cooler. When we invite guests over, he handles drinks and I take care of the food." Two drawer-style dishwashers—easy for youngsters to load as well—make light of cleanup. With the existing window over the sink reconfigured as a pass-through to the dining area, getting food on the table now is as easy as pie.

There's even a desk so Kiki can manage household duties while soup is simmering. Paperwork is stored in pullout file drawers. Of course, plenty of other storage amenities like a lazy Susan and appliance garages abound too—the orderly chef made sure of that. ■



Kiki counts professional chefs among her friends so she's aware that high-performance appliances like a 60-inch range best suit cooking on a large scale. A nifty pot filler guarantees that popular pasta nights are also safer.





"Sunlight floods the banquette area in the morning, and it just lights up the whole house now," says architect Erica Broberg Smith. In addition to the seating area—created out of borrowed garage space—the new kitchen has a large island that can seat four.

Past Perfect

Written by **Lisa Mowry**
Photographs by **Keith Scott Morton**
Produced and styled by **Pamela Abrahams**

As kitchens go, this one's previous state, with granite countertops and stainless appliances, wasn't all bad. But it didn't reflect the owner, says architect Erica Broberg Smith. "A kitchen tells you a lot about a person," she says. "This homeowner is casual and friendly, but she always wears a crisp, starched white shirt, and the new kitchen is neat and detailed just like she is."

Smith's goal for this second home in the Hamptons was to create an elegant kitchen with a touch of femininity. Although it is a classic white kitchen, elements such as the built-in ban quette, citrus-colored walls and vintage pendant lights add personality.

To gain the space for the kitchen's new features, Smith borrowed about four feet from an adjacent garage, which still left room to park a car. An existing laundry space was relocated upstairs closer to bedrooms to yield even more space. The kitchen now has room for a large, mahogany-topped island, built-in breakfront cabinet and seating area that opens to a deck.

The architect worked with her husband, Scott Smith, whose cabinetry company, Smith River Kitchens, is



ABOVE: Because the previous kitchen was in good shape, the homeowner was able to donate cabinetry and appliances to a charitable organization. Its relatively small size and darker cabinets prompted the remodeling.

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS

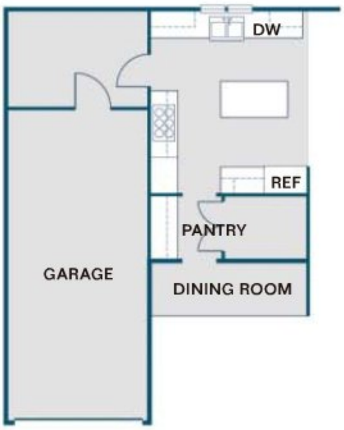


This breakfront cabinet resembles a freestanding hutch, but it's in two pieces; glass-front doors and shelves up top showcase decorative items. The cozy banquette around the corner sports Sunbrella fabric on the cushions as a practical touch.

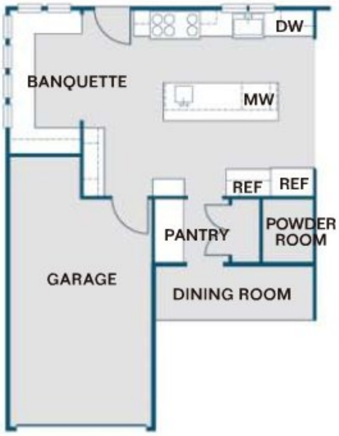


LEFT: The refrigerator in the previous kitchen impeded the primary circulation path.

RIGHT: The refrigerator is now located away from kitchen traffic, with covered panels to continue the furniture look. Although the countertops are marble, the architect chose a slab with minimal veining for a more understated appearance.



BEFORE
The old kitchen didn't have an eat-in area, and the island could only accommodate two stools.



AFTER
After gaining space from the garage, the new kitchen has a back wall full of casement windows to brighten things up.





ABOVE: "The legs on an island can change the look of a kitchen," says Smith. The carved legs here are more formal, setting the tone for a kitchen with traditional elements. The mahogany countertop also has a graceful edge.

particularly attuned to architectural details. They chose inset cabinet doors, which she says is a better fit for historically influenced kitchens (as opposed to overlay doors, which have more of a European look). Calcutta marble countertops and crackled subway tile as backsplash add to the clean feeling.

Smith notes several other features that elevate this kitchen to something special: a coffered ceiling and arched doorways; the furniturelike glass-front cabinet that stores the homeowner's dishes and glassware; and refinished ebony floors, which create a nice contrast to the cream-colored cabinets.

"I can say it's my favorite kitchen I've designed yet," says Smith. "The homeowner really took details to the next level." ■

what was done

- **BORROWED** four feet from the adjacent garage for a built-in sitting area and tucked-away desk.
- **GUTTED** existing kitchen to create a vintage-looking white kitchen, full of upscale details.
- **ADDED** living room–look features such as a coffered ceiling, built-in hutch and arched doorways.
- **INSTALLED** casement windows around the room to bring in plenty of natural light.



what was done

- **REMOVED** cracked decking, broken planters and worn-out furniture
- **REPLACED** deck boards and adorned them with marine-grade paint in a Greek key pattern
- **ADDED** a drainage system so rainwater runs into rain barrels for watering plants
- **BUILT** planter boxes and filled them with soil, colorful succulents and tropical plants
- **CONSTRUCTED** a four-poster table/arbor, and painted and reupholstered furniture with marine vinyl to shed water
- **INSTALLED** acrylic grass and painted the fiberglass containers red to match color scheme





Written by **Peter Walsh**
Photographs by **Sarah Dorio**
Produced by **Lisa Mowry**
Styled by **Aprill Maritan and Christina Wedge**

A designer turns a barren condo rooftop into a swank outdoor party space

Up on the ROOF

before



LEFT: With seating for 10, the newly designed dining area is the perfect spot for hosting large parties and taking in the spectacular views of downtown Atlanta.

ABOVE: The sun-baked decking and furniture was less than welcoming for residents and guests of the building.

OPPOSITE: The garden cocktail area offers comfortable seating with a faux-grass carpet underfoot and colorful plants that can endure the hot Georgia summers.

The 15 residents of this Atlanta loft-style building never imagined chic dinner parties could be thrown just a few flights up from their apartments, where 360-degree views of the city skyline and twinkling lights can be enjoyed from the rooftop. The outside space—with its broken deck boards and shaky railing—was downright dangerous. But resident Brian Patrick Flynn, an interior designer on HGTV's *Decorating Cents* and TBS's *Movie & a Makeover*, saw possibilities. "I'm home most of the time," says Flynn. "I was frustrated that we never used it."

In just five days, Flynn hauled out the old and brought in the new. With a nod to his favorite boutique hotel designers—Kelly Wearstler and Jonathan Adler—he created an eclectic 750-square-foot space with bold, bright colors and funky revamped flea-market furniture that would suit the tastes of the young neighbors that live in the 12-unit former warehouse.

First, the deck boards were replaced and painted in a Greek key pattern to define the dining area. To satisfy building codes that prohibited building a permanent pergola, Flynn devised a four-poster table with an overhead arbor to hold an electrified chandelier that casts a soft glow over the table. Acrylic "grass," resistant to pests and mold, was installed under a seating area flanked by planter boxes filled with colorful tropical and succulent plants, which were chosen for their ability to withstand sun, wind and heat. The result is an upscale outdoor dining area that rivals the poshest places in town. ■

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS



A melange of plants soften the new flagstone pathway, inviting visitors to explore the yard beyond.



A young couple revamps a tired, barren yard into a dreamy gardenscape

Private Oasis

Written by
Peter Walsh

Photographs by
Joe Schmelzer

Produced and Styled by
Sunday Hendrickson





ABOVE LEFT: Construction of a 250-square-foot addition to the house expanded the master bedroom but left a barren yard with no view.

ABOVE: Homeowners Bryan and Brooke Crane with their cockapoo, Mandy, relax on the new patio outside their 1920s-era home.

When homeowners Bryan and Brooke Crane added on to their 1926 Los Angeles cottage to create a master bedroom suite, the view from the new room looked out on their boring driveway. "We wanted to look at trees and plants instead," said Brooke. For a solution, the couple turned to Ann Meshekoff, owner of Ground Effects Design Group, in Van Nuys, California, and her design team to come up with a plan. With a limited budget, Meshekoff suggested preserving most of the existing landscape—but adding to it.

Bryan, who works in real-estate finance, wanted architectural-looking plants with spiky leaves and interesting shapes. Brooke, a stay-at-home mom, wanted a softer look reminiscent of an English country garden that would go with the style of their home. Meshekoff poured over books and garden magazines with the couple until they arrived

RIGHT: A large pittosporum tree shades the backyard and pergola that houses a Jacuzzi hot tub.

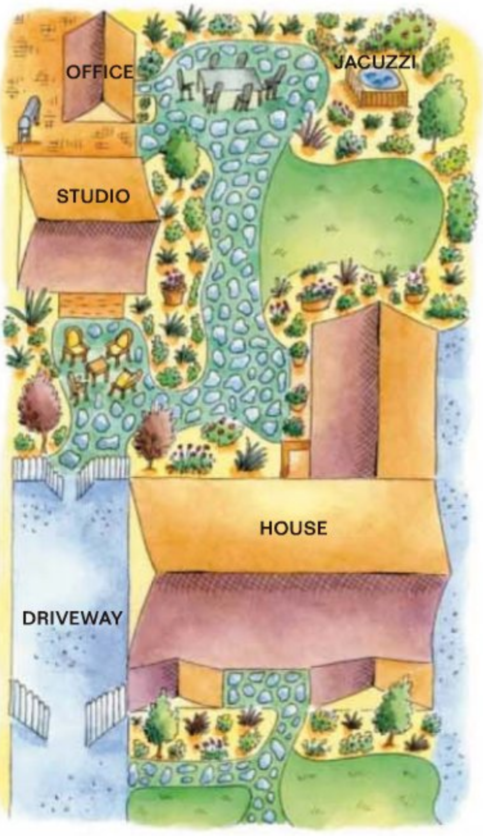


BELOW: A cozy outdoor living room furnished with plush seating was created on the new stone patio in front of the studio. Colorful plants in flower beds and flower-filled containers invite all to enjoy the garden.

at a compromise. Above all, the yard had to be safe for their new baby and the dog.

At approximately 8,000 square feet, the level property already had a garden scheme with pathways and patios, but the look just didn't flow cohesively from the front yard to the back. So the plan was to punch it up and link both parts of the yard. The broken brick patio and wobbly walkways were removed. Trees planted too close together were cut down, and the driveway—leading to a garage that was turned into a utility/studio space—was shortened. The drainage on the site was improved by grading the soil and installing a sump pump.

Once the groundwork was done, Meshekoff began crafting her gardenscape by carving out curving walkways, adding a new patio and installing large, irregularly shaped flagstones to define an outdoor living room. The paths now



ABOVE: The garage was repurposed as a utility/studio space so the driveway was shortened. Undulating pathways of natural stone now lead from a cocktail patio to a dining space under the trees and over to the hot tub for a relaxing soak.







what was done

- **REMOVED** some of the misplaced trees, a poorly constructed patio and old lawn area
- **INSTALLED** pathways, a new patio, and built new steps
- **IMPROVED** the drainage by installing a sump pump and new irrigation system
- **AMENDED** the garden beds with compost and topsoil; and planted new trees, shrubs and perennials
- **INSTALLED** an outdoor lighting system with automatic timers to illuminate the garden at night

Roses, a purple-leaf plum tree, colorful perennials and climbing vines on the gable of the house are set against a backdrop of evergreens creating an English-style country garden that matches the cottage look of the house.





LEFT: The russet colored swordlike leaves of phormium offer a bold accent to the softer grey, silver, pink and chartreuse hues of the surrounding perennials.

ABOVE: Stachys, also known as lamb's ear, was used throughout the garden to soften the edges of the hard surfaces of the natural stone.

BELOW: Red-leafed plants add a punch of color to the garden beds. The bold hue draws the eye, encouraging visitors to explore the mix of colorful blooms and foliage.

lead from the back door of the house to the studio, an office outbuilding, a dining area under a pittosporum tree strung with lights and a hot tub under an existing pergola. Purple-leafed plum trees were planted to match those in the front yard along with citrus trees, birches and a cherry tree. Several rose bushes saved from the original garden were surrounded by hydrangeas, camellias, phormiums (for the spiky leaves Bryan loves), and acanthus plants.

Next came a layer of perennials, including artemisia, scented geraniums, gardenias, Japanese anemones and daylilies, chosen for their color and fragrance—and because they'd be nontoxic to the dog and baby. Finally, ground covers were planted to fill in the spaces. Herbs, including rosemary, lavender, basil, chives and thyme, were interspersed among the beds to add a loose, country garden look. "We did a lot of repetition," said Meshekoff. "So the front yard would 'talk' to the rear."

With new outdoor lighting, the yard is now used both day and night for entertaining. Cocktails are served on the patio with guests seated in plush chairs; dinner parties are hosted on another patio under the trees. After taking care to match their new bedroom to the English style of the home, the Cranes' new garden enhances the old-world feeling. ■



SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS



CLASSIC PLANTER

(Shown on page 40)

Directions:

1. Measure and mark two $13\frac{1}{2}\times12$-inch pieces and two 15×12-inch pieces of wood. Cut these using a table saw. If you're using a circular saw, jigsaw or hand saw, use clamps to fix the wood to your work surface before cutting.

2. After sides are cut, use wood glue and finish nails to put the box together so that it measures $15\times15\times12$ inches.

3. To make the legs, measure and mark four $14\times2\frac{1}{4}$-inch and four $14\times1\frac{1}{2}$-inch pieces of wood. Use the table saw to rip the pieces to size. If you're using a circular saw, jigsaw or hand saw, clamp the wood to your work surface before cutting.

4. Put the legs together using one of each size board to make an L-shape piece that will measure $14\times2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Glue and nail all four legs together. Attach the legs to the box using wood glue and finish nails.

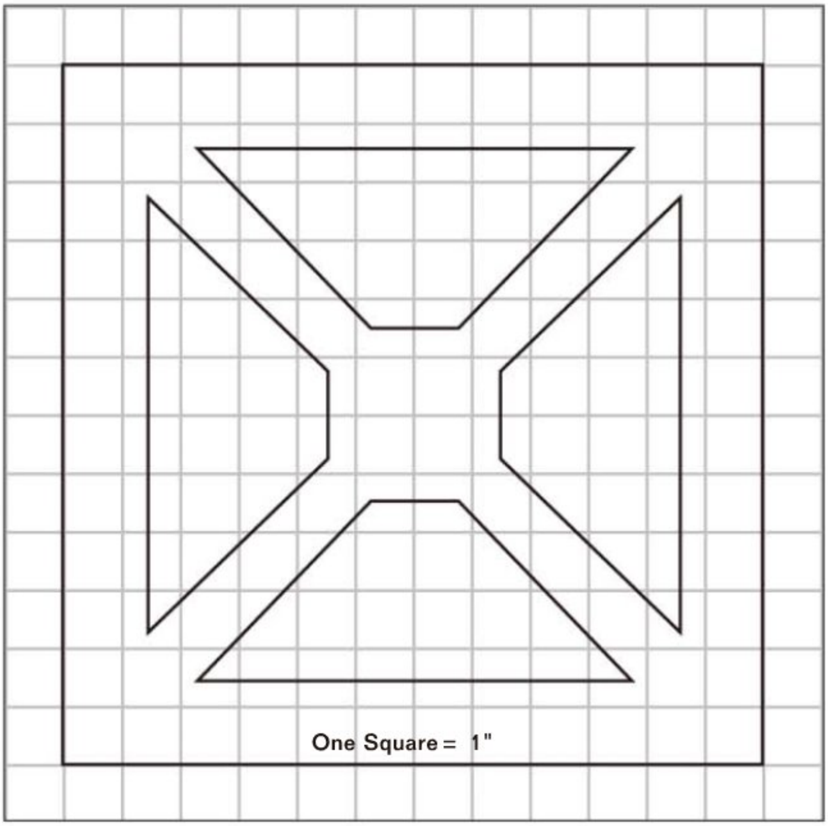
5. To make the overlay inserts, use four pieces of $12\times12\times\frac{1}{8}$-inch luan. Stack the pieces together and put two finish nails through them to hold the pieces together while you cut out the pattern. Using the template at right (scaled to size), mark the design on the wood with Saral paper, or measure and mark the design on the wood with a pencil and ruler. (See How to Enlarge Patterns, below.) Clamp the luan pieces to your work surface, then use a drill with a $\frac{3}{8}$-inch bit to make a starter hole. Use a jigsaw to cut out all four pieces at the same time.

6. After you have cut out the inserts, pull out the nails that hold the four pieces together. Use wood glue and brads to attach the inserts to all four sides of the planter and to attach the rosettes to the center of each insert.

7. Using a table saw, cut a $13\frac{1}{2}\times3\frac{1}{2}$-inch piece for the bottom. If using a circular saw, jigsaw or hand saw, clamp the wood to your work surface before cutting. Drill a drainage hole in the center of the bottom piece. Attach the bottom to sides with finish nails.

8. Use wood filler to fill all the nail holes. After the wood filler dries, use a palm sander or sandpaper to sand down any excess filler. If you have one, use a $\frac{1}{4}$-inch or a $\frac{1}{8}$-inch round router bit in a router to round all corners.

9. When planter is assembled, apply two coats of primer and two or more coats of paint to the entire planter, allowing each coat to dry between coats. Apply one coat of polyurethane; let dry. ■



HOW TO ENLARGE PATTERNS

Using a ruler and colored pencil, mark a grid on the pattern by connecting grid lines around the edges. On a sheet of paper, mark a grid of 1-inch squares (or size given), making the same number of squares as on the pattern. An easy way to do this is to use graph paper with 1-inch squares. In each square, draw the same lines as in the corresponding square on the pattern. Another way to enlarge patterns is by using a photocopier.

PHOTOGRAPH: AIMEE HERRING



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Buying Guide

Color Cues

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Page 28: *Designers*, Katy Naghavi and Caroline McLean, Atelier Katayan. ***Architect***, William Belden Guidero Design. ***Area rug***, Boardwalk Braid, Rug Warehouse. ***Window shades***, Natural Woven Shade in Katsu/Teak, Castec. ***Drapery rod*** and ***hardware***, Restoration Hardware. ***Drapery fabrication***, Rudy's Drapery Service. ***Drapery fabric***, Marbella in Delft; ***floral pillow fabric***, Lamak in Delft 131B39, Raoul Textiles. ***Mirror***, Juxtaposition Home. ***Wall candelabra***, ***lounge chair*** and ***side table***, Williams-Sonoma Home. ***Striped pillow fabric***, Catwalk in Ocean, Lulu DK. ***Table lamps***, Casablanca, Jamie Young. ***Coffee table***, Modern Barn Rush Cocktail Table, Ralph Lauren Home.

Earth-Friendly Home

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